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Wanted: On two-year anniversary of Rabin assassination: PM calls for reconciliation

New Mossad chief

By AVINOH BAR-YOSEF

Mossad head Danny Yatom appeared again before the Ciechanover Commission this week to corroborate his version of the failed assassination of Hamas official Khaled Mashal in Jordan on September 25.

When Yatom said he would be willing to go as far as take a lie-detector test to prove he was telling the truth, nobody was moved. Prior to this, no one had accused him of lying. Yatom is a man of honor when it comes to his word. The question is where is that honor hiding when it comes to bearing responsibility?

The focus of the Mossad today is on failure. On the oppressive feeling which overcame the organization after the Mashal Affair. In the planning, the preparation of the operation, and in the political and military risk-taking involved in it.

The focus is on replacements. Who will take Yatom's place? OC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon or "A," the inside candidate presented by the Mossad to compete against Yatom before he took up the position in February 1996 and who has since retired from the service, or perhaps the previous head, Shabtai Shavit, who could come back for a limited period in order to train a new director?

Let us also not forget that Yatom's second-in-command will also be leaving, as he was directly responsible for the operation in Amman.

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By ELLI WOHLGELERITER and LIAT COLLINS

While former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was remembered in memorial ceremonies throughout the country yesterday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu used the occasion to urge national reconciliation, with words that bordered on a call for a unity government.

Speaking at a special Knesset session marking the second anniversary of Rabin's assassination, Netanyahu personally called on "Shimon and Arik" and "Yitzhak and Ehud" to work

An extraordinary day at the Knesset, Page 3

towards unity, referring to former prime minister Shimon Peres, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordochai, and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak. "It is possible to put all of them on one team," Netanyahu said. "To all of you, I turn on this day to unite around what we have in common, which is so much greater than what sets us apart: the desire to bring peace and security to this country and those who dwell here. And I turn in particular to Yitzhak Rabin's close friends, my political foes, who are grieving the loss more than anyone. I stretch out a hand in peace and in conciliation."

Asked by Israel Radio what he thought Netanyahu meant by his use of the word "team," Barak said: "I do not know how to interpret this. We shall see." Following Netanyahu to the podium, Barak said: "Unity is not just talk - it is actions and commitment. I hold out both hands for national reconciliation." Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon



Mourning at yesterday's memorial at Yitzhak Rabin's gravesite on Mt. Herzl are (from left) Dalia Rabin-Pelosoff, Leah Rabin, Yuval Rabin, and his wife Tali. (Sara Harel)

opened the session by declaring: "A feeling of national responsibility and commitment makes me call - here and now - for a national unity government. A national conciliatory government." Earlier in the day, the official state ceremony was held at Rabin's grave on Mt. Herzl. It was a simple, half-hour memorial, with two speeches, a chapter of Psalms, Kaddish, El Maleh Rahamin, and the laying of 13 wreaths. But it was

not devoid of political undercurrents. "Yitzhak, please give me a sign," said Avi Pelosoff, Rabin's son-in-law, in an impassioned address. "How am I supposed to force myself to get up in the morning and go to work in a country where a third of the population is unwilling to condemn the murder of their prime minister by a cowardly Jew?" He called on everyone "to begin

a purification process here and now - not tomorrow, not next week - to unify all the factions of the country." The ceremony was attended by President Ezer Weizman, Netanyahu, Tichon, Supreme Court President Aharon Barak, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, ministers, MKs, the chief rabbis, members of the diplomatic corps, other dignitaries, and Rabin's close aides and friends.

Netanyahu passed by the seat of Leah Rabin when he arrived, and the two exchanged a brief, cold handshake but did not speak. Earlier in the day, tens of thousands of pupils from the central region and the North thronged Tel Aviv's Kikar Rabin at noon for a ceremony also attended by Rabin's family. The nation's schools paid their own tributes to Rabin, conducting a variety of memorial ceremonies.

Netanyahu to invite Barak for unity talks

By LIAT COLLINS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu plans to invite Labor Party leader Ehud Barak for a "conciliation talk" which could be a step toward creating a national unity government, Third Way MK Yehuda Harel said yesterday.

Harel spoke after meeting Netanyahu last night along with Third Way leader and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani. He said Netanyahu agreed to meet with Barak when he returns next week from the US. Harel added that such a move would be a step in the direction of forming a joint government.

After the meeting with Netanyahu, Kahalani met with Barak last night on the unity government proposal. Kahalani also threatened yesterday to recommend that his party leave the coalition unless a unity government is formed.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon also called for a unity government during his speech in memory of Yitzhak Rabin yesterday.

Tichon said it was important for the two largest parties to join forces considering the tough decisions ahead on peace talks.

Yossi Beilin (Labor) said national unity is important but rejected a national unity government headed by Netanyahu since "it is clear no thinking person can imagine the Labor Party would join a government led by someone not fit to be premier."

2 WTC bombers convicted

NEW YORK - A US federal jury convicted Ramzi Yousef yesterday of masterminding the 1993 World Trade Center bombing in the hopes of killing as many Americans as possible. The jury also convicted Eyad Ismoil, who was accused of driving the van used in the blast. The two men were charged with carrying out the February 26, 1993, bombing that killed six people and injured more than 1,000. Prosecutors said at the time that it was the worst terrorist attack on US soil. The attack also stole from many Americans a sense of safety from the kind of Middle East terrorism they had only read about before. During the trial, prosecutors called the defendants cold-blooded killers who carried out the explosion as a "twisted form of protest" against US support of Israel. Both face a maximum sentence of life in prison.

A Secret Service agent testified that Yousef had boasted about orchestrating the scheme and said he regretted that more people had not been killed. The agent said that Yousef had hoped one of the building's two towers would fall on its twin killing at least 250,000 victims. Ismoil claimed he did not know a bomb was in the van. Yousef and Ismoil fled on commercial flights the night of the bombing. A \$2 million reward for Yousef helped lead to his capture in Pakistan in 1995, the same year Ismoil was picked up in Jordan. By then, four Islamic extremists had already been convicted of conspiracy in the case and each sentenced to 240 years in prison by US District Judge Kevin Duffy, who presided over the current trial as well. (News agencies)

Security Council condemns Iraq

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

NEW YORK - The UN Security Council voted unanimously yesterday to condemn Iraq for refusing to cooperate with UN arms-inspection teams, saying its violations of council resolutions threaten international peace and security. But there was no suggestion of military force.

The resolution "does not encourage or justify any escalation," French Ambassador Alain DeJumet said, calling for a diplomatic solution and the continuation of UN arms inspections. "The security of the region is at stake." "It is not for Iraq to set the terms of its compliance. Iraq must simply comply [with UN directives]," US Ambassador Bill Richardson told the council immediately after the vote. "There will be consequences if it fails."

Iraq has given no sign that it will cease activities that seem to threaten its neighbors and to show it intends to develop weapons of mass destruction, Richardson said. The Security Council resolution also imposed a travel ban on Iraqi officials responsible for disrupting UN weapons inspections. It expressed the council's "firm intention" to

take further unspecified measures if Iraq does not comply with demands to withdraw a ban on Americans working on inspection teams. Iraq denounced the resolution. "Iraq rejects and condemns the Security Council resolution and stresses that the resolution will not scare it and it will continue its efforts to defend its legitimate rights," an Iraqi news agency dispatch from New York quoted Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz as saying. "This resolution is added to a series of unjust resolutions adopted by the council in the past," said Aziz, who is currently in New York. The agency quoted him as saying: "I have tried to explain our just case in front of the Security Council directly... but American pressure and blackmail has prevented me. "Although they prevent me from speaking in front of the council, the council members and the public opinion have been informed about our cause, legitimate demands and suffering." Earlier yesterday, Iraq again banned a team of weapons inspectors that included Americans. Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammed Sabhaf also warned that Baghdad would expel the

Americans on the UN weapons-inspection team if the council approved the resolution. The US, Egypt, France and other nations on the 15-member council expressed their compassion for the Iraqi people. "Egypt finds itself in a sensitive situation," Egyptian Ambassador Nabil Elaraby told the Security Council. Cairo understands the despair and frustration felt by Iraq because of the sanctions, but "Iraq has taken a position that is not in the interest of any party, including Iraq itself," Elaraby said. Although Egypt voted for the resolution, Elaraby hinted that it could not abide by its provisions. The travel restrictions must not obstruct Egypt's obligations as host of the Arab League, he said. The UN resolution was in response to an October 29 decision by Baghdad to prohibit Americans from taking part in UN searches for Iraqi weapons of mass destruction under terms of a 1991 Gulf War cease-fire resolution. Iraq also demanded a halt to flights by US-piloted U-2 spy planes in support of the weapons inspectors and threatened to shoot them down.

Evangelical Christians supply major source of UJA donations

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

An Evangelical Christian group has emerged as one of the leading contributors to the United Jewish Appeal in recent years, and its leader claims it has become the single largest donor to the UJA in 1997.

According to Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, director of the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, a Chicago-based organization, his group will turn over some \$5 million in contributions to the UJA this year, almost totally from Evangelical Christians. UJA officials confirmed that

the group is currently the largest donor in Chicago, that it raised \$2.5 million last year, then "promised to double it" this year. UJA officials could not say whether they were the largest donor overall.

Despite the contributions, however, Eckstein said that Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg and other senior agency officials had refused to meet with him. He said they are happy to take the contributions, but uneasy about being associated with the Evangelicals.

Burg refused to comment on that accusation yesterday, but a senior agency source said that "since taking office, he has told people that he planned only to deal with matters of the Jewish people, because it was their agency, and he did not plan to deal with groups whose fundamentalist agenda contradicts his world view." Eckstein, an ordained Orthodox rabbi, said his group had initially raised money to bring Jews from the former

Soviet Union to Israel, and is now involved in a project in conjunction with the Joint Distribution Committee to help feed and care for elderly Jews who choose to remain in the FSU.

In one case, one donor paid for an entire charter flight of 170 immigrants from Tashkent. Eckstein, who appeals to donors via a series of television and radio programs, said the group also tries to alter stereotypes held by Jews regarding Evangelical Christians.

He said many Evangelicals make donations in keeping with the Christian tradition of tithing, based on Genesis 12, verse 3, where God tells Abraham: "And I will bless those who bless you."

One woman donated over \$1,000 she had saved for a new car, saying she thought it was more important to use it to bring Jews to Israel. A postal clerk traveled from Atlanta to Chicago to personally deliver a wad of \$100 bills he had saved from his monthly paycheck.

Axworthy distances himself from Iraq deal

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Visiting Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy has been distancing himself from an estimated \$1 billion in contracts with Iraq worked out recently by a high-powered trade delegation from Canada.

After issuing an initial disclaimer in Cairo at the start of his current Middle East tour, Axworthy was quoted in the Toronto Star as saying the commercial group's organizers did not coordinate their business activities in Iraq with the government in Ottawa or the Canadian embassy in Jordan.

The apparent dismay over the proposed sales followed a disclosure in the Ottawa Citizen that Axworthy discussed the possibilities for an oil-for-aid deal with Iraq in a two-page letter to Canalac

Manufacturing Ltd. executives dated February 12, 1996. The report said Axworthy outlined the avenues available to Canalac to consummate the deal and pointed out the obstacles in its way, particular UN sanctions against Iraq.

Noting that the firm already had won UN Security Council clearance to ship \$500 million worth of rice and sugar to Iraq, Axworthy reportedly wrote: "You have already been informed by officials from this department that the sanctions committee of the United Nations Security Council has approved your proposal for the shipment of rice and sugar, subject to meeting the requirements of Canadian sanctions regulations."

On his second day here, Axworthy conferred with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu from

whom he received more assurances that Canadian passports will not be used by Mossad agents, as occurred in the botched assassination of Hamas political chief Khaled Mashal on Sept. 25 in Jordan. "He confirmed that directives have been given that represent full government policy and they would be honored and followed through," Axworthy said.

Netanyahu's communications adviser, David Bar-Ilan, described the understandings reached with Axworthy as a "general commitment" that could not possibly be iron-clad. "I do not know anyone who is authorized to give that kind of a directive," he said.

Netanyahu briefed Axworthy about the peace process and told him that the condition for progress is an all-out war against terrorism by the Palestinian Authority.

Militants kill three in Egypt

QENA - Suspected Moslem militants shot dead two policemen and a farmer yesterday, after an ambush in the railway station of Nag Hammadi, security sources said.

They said police guarding the station, more than 400 km. south of Cairo, killed one of the gunmen, who are believed to be members of the militant Gama'a al-Islamiya.

It was not immediately clear whether the train, which pulled out of the station before the shooting, was carrying any tourists.

The group has fired at trains to frighten away visitors and wreck Egypt's lucrative tourism industry. (Reuters)



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Parables

sh oblige him to obtain approval... for senior appointments and executive policy decisions.

Party leaders rap Netanyahu

While some Likud higher-ups yesterday openly called for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's replacement as party leader, leading members of the party leadership are

did not want to see a political split... Netanyahu's political mistakes when he set out to change the very parameters of the Likud when he did

The official memorial day for prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, marked yesterday, produced abundant commentary in the Hebrew press.

There is not a minister who came out of the convention unharmed or not detesting the prime minister, writes Ma'ariv's Shalom Yenshalini, adding that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has become the

of the fact that there are inciters in the Left is dangerous. Likud turmoil

The Likud convention ended on Tuesday with a vote to abandon the primaries after two days of turmoil, leaving many MKs and ministers defeated.

PM, Barak call for national conciliation

By LIAT COLLINS

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu repeated his call for national conciliation from the Knesset podium at yesterday's memorial session for Yitzhak Rabin. Labor Party leader Ehud Barak said he stretched out "both hands," nonetheless his speech was full of barbed allusions to Netanyahu, whom he accused of playing a part in the incident that preceded the assassination.

Some 1,000 guests were present, including diplomats, judges, religious leaders, State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak, and police Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz. Leah Rabin, her children and grandchildren sat in the center of the visitors' gallery, opposite a large picture of the slain premier.

Netanyahu named MKs from both opposition and coalition he said could be "one team. To all of you, I turn on this day to unite around what we have in common, which is so much greater than what sets us apart: the desire to bring peace and security to this country and those who dwell here. And I turn in particular to Yitzhak Rabin's close friends, my political foes, who are grieving the loss more than anyone. I stretch out a hand in peace and in conciliation.

"And I put myself first in this. First to say that I, like others, must do soul-searching. First to stretch out my hand. First to say: 'Let's go

together in the path of dialogue, the path of conciliation.' In his speech, Barak said: "From here, I stretch out both my hands for national conciliation. And I repeat

my call at Saturday night's memorial rally in Kikar Rabin for all of us to unite and overcome all the barriers. We have no other people and no other country."

An extraordinary day

By LIAT COLLINS

As MKs stepped into the Knesset yesterday, they were reminded that the day was no ordinary one. Opposite the entrance, surrounded by flowers and six candles, was a huge picture of Yitzhak Rabin. On the table underneath was a memorial book signed one by one by members of the House, employees, and Knesset guards.

It was a theme repeated by ministers, opposition MKs, and those who knew him. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, returning from the memorial service at Mount Herzl, wrote he was a "partner to the pain" and inscribed a wish "for conciliation among all parts of the people."

After the special session, Leah Rabin met with Tichon and Weizman. "It's a very hard day for us," she said. "It's even difficult for us to step into this House because he's not here."

Kissinger's visit

By ORLY AHARONI

"Dr. Henry Kissinger came to visit during a week when all the issues regarding the arrangements with the Palestinians seemed to vanish into thin air," writes Ha'aretz's Gidon Samet. The former secretary of state was guest of the Rabin Center for Research in Israel.

Yosef Haiff in Ma'ariv reveals that Yitzhak Rabin confided in Kissinger that he was willing to stop the Oslo process if it turned out that its implementation might deprive Israel of its essential security areas in the West Bank.



Young people crowd around the monument marking the site of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination during a memorial ceremony yesterday.

Milo: 'We're all in the same boat'

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

"No conspiracy theory, plot or unfounded talk will succeed in distracting attention from the awful murder which took place here, and from the lesson we must all learn from it," Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo said yesterday at a memorial for Yitzhak Rabin.

"We are all in the same boat. Whoever drills holes in it, will ultimately sink with it."

his legacy - peace - will come true so that we can live here with no wars, in the Israel that Rabin fought for and worked for creating peace and a better future. IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak called for a "relentless war on the dangerous radical fringe groups gnawing at the unity and quality of our society."

"Please remember him the way he was in his life. It was for us he wanted peace, and for peace he was murdered," Michael Rabin said.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

The official memorial day for prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, marked yesterday, produced abundant commentary in the Hebrew press. "We do not have the vocabulary to phrase the tragic and the heroic of this," Hava Pinhas-Cohen writes in Ma'ariv.

There is not a minister who came out of the convention unharmed or not detesting the prime minister, writes Ma'ariv's Shalom Yenshalini, adding that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has become the

Likud turmoil

The Likud convention ended on Tuesday with a vote to abandon the primaries after two days of turmoil, leaving many MKs and ministers defeated.

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ROSH PINA

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The Algerian hazard

By JOHN DANISZEWSKI

ALGIERS, Algeria — Benmouhamed Mouloual, an editor at the government-run daily *El Moudjahid*, threw open a closet in his newspaper's office to display his personal stash of life-saving gear — a blanket, sheet, pillow and toothbrush.

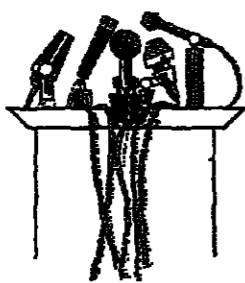
For years, he explained, he has slept on his office couch because of fear of assassination if he goes home.

Mouloual and his colleagues have ample reason to be afraid. Since 1993, at least 59 reporters, editors and broadcasters have been killed in Algeria. Some were blown up, some gunned down, some stabbed and at least two were decapitated — making this by far the most dangerous country in the world in which to be a journalist. (At *El Moudjahid* alone, portraits of nine "martyrs" hang on the wall of the editorial boardroom.)

But it is not only fear for their physical safety that preoccupies Algerian journalists. They are also worried about their ability to report objectively and dispassionately in a conflict-racked country where neither side wants an unfettered media.

On one hand, government authorities employ a heavy arsenal of legal and financial tools to control and shape the news. On the other, the armed groups that have been fighting since 1992 to create an Islamic state in Algeria view journalists as heretics and government stooges who must be silenced, if not killed.

"In these circumstances, freedom of expression is a daily, personal struggle," said Omar Belhouche, editor of *El Watan*



Media Update

reporters intimidated from printing or broadcasting what they know about human rights abuses and other sensitive topics.

Even when the journalists are willing to report, newspaper directors concerned about finances are reluctant to take risks, she said.

"Most journalists in Algeria are not so brave as they seem to be," said Dridi, who describes herself as "a little bitter."

About 10 newspapers have been silenced on financial or legal grounds. Since January, for example, two independents have been refused service by the government-owned printing house, purportedly due to an old unpaid invoice. Editors also complain that the government controls advertising and directs it only to papers that accommodate it.

In addition, individual journalists have been jailed for reporting or expressing opinions. In a handful of cases, journalists have "disappeared" — they were seen being arrested but never surfaced in a court. Many papers avoid covering delicate subjects, and their coverage of political violence and security matters closely follows the dispatches of the official Algerian Press Service.

Although the past four years have been filled with grief for Algerian journalists, in one respect 1997 has been better. Targeted violence against journalists seems to have waned. The serial killing of journalists in Algeria — presumed to be the work of Islamic militants — started in May 1993, when the

By ROBIN WRIGHT

WASHINGTON — In dealing with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, the options for the United States and its allies span the gamut from angry but often ineffective words to bombs raining from the desert skies.

But the supercharged atmosphere of recent days may well belie what's ahead. For most options will take time — maybe even lots of time.

"There's no set timeline. We're quite willing to play it along as we go," a senior Clinton administration official said this week.

Some options are obvious, especially after seven years of crisis diplomacy with Baghdad. Others reflect imaginative touches. None is easy.

And short of Iraq throwing the first punch by following through on threats to attack a US U-2 spy plane on loan to UN disarmament inspectors, it seems unlikely that the allies will turn to a military solution soon, US officials say.

"Even if we did see a military confrontation at the end of the road, the United States will want to be very careful to lay a good international foundation for it — and that's not laid down yet," said Robert Pelletreau, recently retired assistant secretary of State for Near East affairs. "Otherwise there's going to be a feeling both in the Mideast and Europe that the US had a hair trigger and was jumping the gun," Pelletreau said.

The major challenge of the moment is to devise a course of action where the cost is not higher to the allies, particularly to the United States, than it is to Baghdad.

"Lurking always in the back of our minds is the price we may have to pay," said a US official. "Saddam may actually welcome a military strike, for example, as a pretext to throw out all the UN inspectors. Then he'd be free to do whatever he wants with his weapons of mass destruction." As a rule of thumb, as odd as it may seem, the greater the punishment on Iraq, the higher the price to the United States.

"When you start to look at the options, you see what difficulty we're in," said Phebe Marr, Iraq expert at National Defense University. "There aren't many good ones." For the near future, the scene is likely to be dominated by diplomatic to-and-froing, mostly but not necessarily exclusively in the UN Security Council.

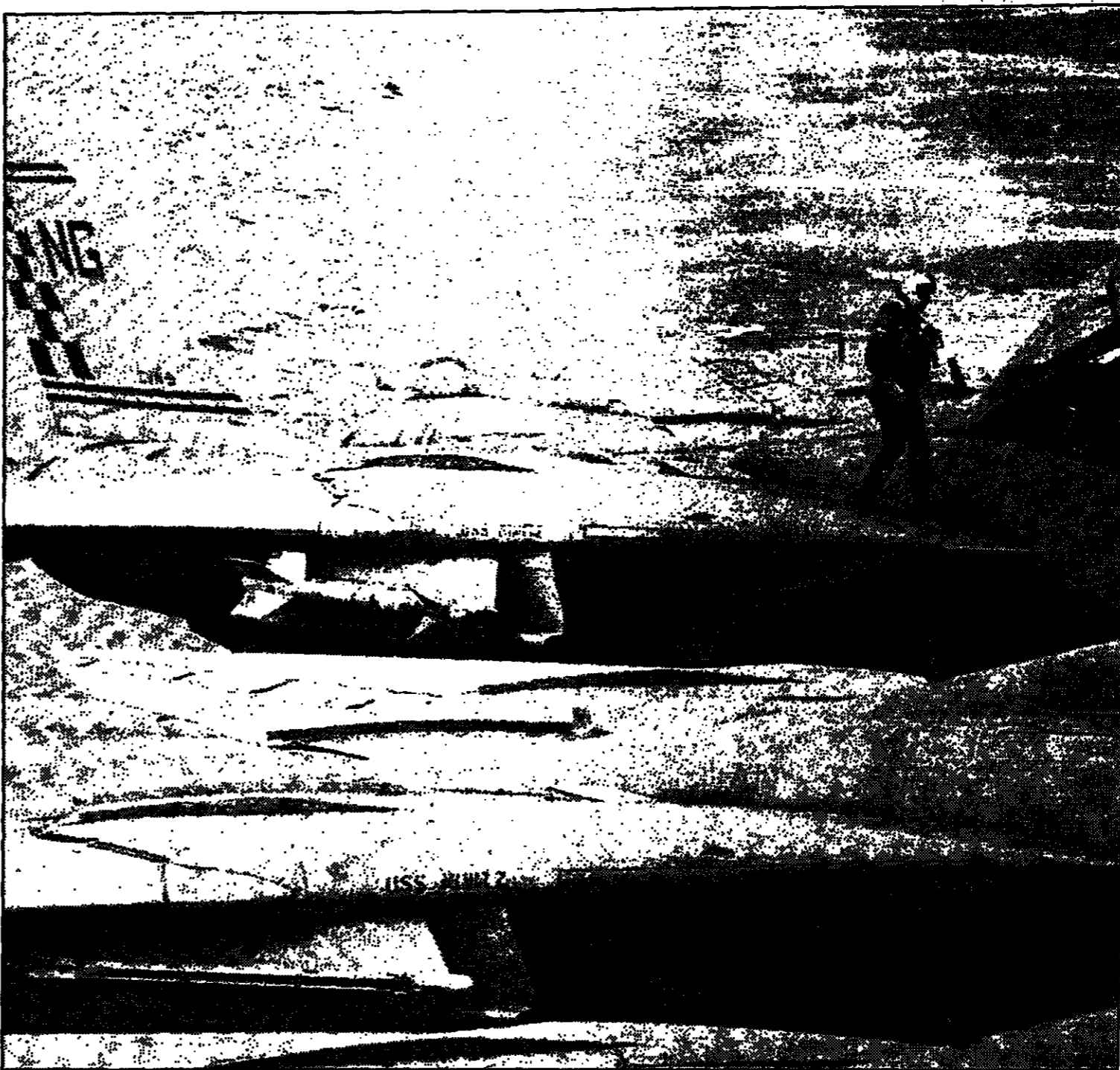
The Clinton administration began its legwork Monday with the obvious. UN Ambassador Bill Richardson pushed for a resolution that would include a strong condemnation of Iraq, demand total and immediate compliance with all aspects of UN resolutions and impose a travel ban on obstructive Iraqi officials.

More than two weeks ago, before Hussein defiantly demanded that US experts be removed from the UN weapons inspection teams, France, Russia, China, Egypt and Kenya abstained rather than vote on a resolution that would have imposed such a travel ban next spring.

The allies do appear more united now, but passage of a new resolution, expected midweek, is likely to be followed by a "test-

What the US can do in Iraq

Without a solid international umbrella — at least for now — Washington has no easy options as it weighs its choices in the Gulf



Pilot Krista Lamoreaux walks along the wing of an F-14 Tomcat while performing a maintenance check on the USS Nimitz in the Persian Gulf this week. (AP)

"In these circumstances, freedom of expression is a daily, personal struggle."

— Omar Belhouche, editor of *El Watan*

and one of the country's best-known journalists.

His words, during an interview last month, were prescient.

On Wednesday, police took Belhouche from his heavily barricaded Algiers office to question him about a recent *El Watan* article that criticized several army generals. That same day, it was announced that Belhouche had been sentenced to one year in prison, stemming from remarks he made in a 1995 interview with French television. He has one week to appeal.

It is probably no coincidence that Belhouche's sentence came when the government of President Liamine Zeroual is suffering a storm of critical coverage — much of it in *El Watan* — over alleged vote-rigging in municipal elections held last month. No editor of Belhouche's stature has been imprisoned in recent years, and if the sentence stands it will be a chilling signal to other would-be regime critics.

Freelance writer Lola Dridi said she fears her profession is badly compromised, with

admired writer Tahar Djaout, editor of *Ruptures* cultural magazine, was fatally wounded outside his home. Before the end of 1993, nine journalists had been slain, according to figures verified by the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists. In 1994, there were 19 more; in 1995, 24; and in 1996, seven. But so far in 1997, not a single journalist has been killed. The reasons for the dramatic drop-off remain murky.

"I never knew why it happened, so I can't say why it has stopped," shrugged Djamel Fonzi of the Arabic-language newspaper *El Khabbar*, whose editor Omar Quartilan was gunned down on his way to work two years ago.

Even so, journalists such as Mouloual, Dridi and Fouzi dare not relax their vigilance. All three move around, do not sleep at their old homes and generally keep a very low profile.

As Belhouche said before his arrest: "We became, and automatically that affected our role as journalists."

(LA Times)

warned this week that imminent talk of military action would not go down well with the world body.

Experts also warn that a swift US military strike would almost certainly enrage the Arab world, already angered by more than six years of sanctions that Iraqis say have caused widespread suffering, and antagonize those Iraqi insiders Washington hopes will someday oust Hussein.

If the clash does escalate into a military confrontation, the scale of the attack will become an issue of debate within the coalition facing Iraq. In the past, allied air and missile attacks have done limited damage, but have been enough to persuade Hussein to back down. Now, however, there is a growing sense that Hussein is bolder and is intent on testing the coalition's resolve more seriously.

"We should rule out 'pinpricks' because they've lost credibility," Pelletreau said, referring to a term often used to describe the previous, small-scale allied strikes against Iraq since the 1991 Persian Gulf War. "Once they were a reminder that force was still out there, but Iraq has proven it needs more than a reminder."

To send a strong message, the United States may have to consider either waiting until Iraq's violations have driven the fragmented alliance into greater unity or engaging in a longer or bigger military response.

The United States could achieve bolder results with a modest attack, but that would mean sending in warplanes at lower altitudes so that their weapons are more accurate. But that option significantly escalates the risk that allied aircraft will be shot down, causing casualties or the capture of pilots.

"The problem is that if a pilot ever gets shot down, the cost escalates enormously in a domestic political context," Pelletreau said.

While the military option is held in abeyance for the moment, other UN resolutions are possible. US officials refuse to discuss specifics. But Kenneth M. Pollack, Iraq expert at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, says they could include:

- Suspending Iraq's participation in UN forums, such as the Conference on Disarmament or the UN Human Rights Commission. Barzan Takriti, Hussein's half-brother and finan-

cial banker, is an emissary to the commission.

- Limiting the size of Iraq's diplomatic missions abroad, a step debated in dealing with Libya and Sudan.
- Suspending Iraq from the UN General Assembly, a step imposed on South Africa during the apartheid era.
- Forbidding UN member-states from granting visas to anyone with an Iraqi passport.

Other experts point to additional measures, such as indicting Iraqi officials for alleged war crimes, a possibility shelved after the Gulf War. The Pentagon still has files on such allegations from the war.

Perhaps one of the most damaging options would be for Washington to eliminate the one arrangement that allows Hussein to sell \$2 billion worth of oil to the outside world to pay for humanitarian goods, experts say. The UN measure, which he finally accepted last year, is his biggest source of foreign exchange.

Yet cancellation would almost certainly boomerang against the United States in the court of world opinion, said Marr of National Defense University.

(LA Times)

Israel's Southern Landscapes
by Aviva Bar-Am & Yisrael Shalem

Your personal guide to Ellat and the Negev. Another outstanding guide by these two veteran travel writers. Aviva Bar-Am is well known to The Jerusalem Post readers from her lively family travel columns. Dozens of family hikes and easy nature trails; fascinating car trips throughout the Negev; sensational walks off the beaten track; visits to ancient Biblical, Nabatean and Roman cities; explore Bedouin culture and modern settlements. Includes a unique English-Hebrew dictionary of flora and fauna. Highly acclaimed book. Softcover, 318 pp., with full-color illustrations.

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مكتبة القدس

Weekender

Clubbing 101

By TRACY FISKE

Last week, the nation's university students scurried back to their respective campuses for another year of academia - and all the pressures and anxiety that accompany it. All that stress can make one awfully thirsty and in need of a place to blow off some steam. That's the concept behind the Campus nightclub.

"We opened a year ago," says Helik Seflouk, part owner of the establishment. "Since our staff is made up completely of students who wanted to have a break and take trips on their summer vacation, we decided to close for the season. But now that school is in session, they're back and so are we."

The Campus is situated in the industrial section of Talpiot, which is slowly evolving into Jerusalem's night-life district. Getting out of your cab at about midnight on a Friday, the Campus's most rollicking evening, is like descending into a three-ring circus. Two boisterous clowns, one on stilts, greet you at the car, rushing you toward a crowd gathered outside for a pre-entrance party. There is a tequila-fizz bar serving up complimentary shots - as many as you can stam. "This bar is here so the students can have a drink before they pay anything. We want to give them a good feeling before they even enter," says Seflouk. And the staff has been trained to treat the customers in a cordial manner, he adds.

At the entrance you are greeted with a friendly "Good evening, enjoy yourself." Imagine that - smiling doormen.

Inside, the walls are painted black, and planets and stars glow in the dark - as does all the white lint sticking to my black sweater. The entrance fee is NIS 20 for students, NIS 35 for others, but there are various discounts available from night to night. You can check your coat for NIS 3.

There are many cute, if not kitschy, distractions but let's face it, you're there to dance. The Campus, not as cavernous as its neighbor the Ha'aman club, is divided into three relatively intimate rooms.

On the main dance floor, about an hour of hip-hop eases you into an evening of throbbing, unremitting House music. It goes without saying that there's a machine pumping out fake smoke, right? The bar stands in the main room, a bit elevated from the dance floor, with beer at NIS 10 for a small glass and mixed drinks at NIS 20. At those prices, I suggest taking full advantage of the free tequila bar.

In the second room, the DJs spin '80s favorites for geezers like me, who are simply too old and unhip to recognize the merits of today's dance music. The theme of the third room changes weekly, from rap to soul to Latin, which was playing the night I was there. While most of the dancers seemed to be merely winging it, swinging their hips as quickly and haphazardly as possible, there were a few couples that were simply a joy to watch.

I would be remiss not to mention the Beduin terrace - replete with rugs, pillows and kissing couples - where a real-live Beduin prepares Turkish coffee and packs papilla pipes.

While the Israeli university experience is worlds apart from the four-year bachelors we Americans refer to as college, an evening at the Campus borders dangerously on frat-party territory.

The Campus, 30 Ha'aman Street, Jerusalem

AFTER HOURS



Scandal sheets and Victoria (Judi Dench) is persuaded to go riding and resume contact with the world by her husband's hunting attendant Brown (Billy Connolly).

Judi Dench as Queen Victoria: She was very amused

In the new movie about the strangely passionate relationship between Queen Victoria and her Scottish servant John Brown, the British actress adds to her roster of monarchs

By ALAN RICHING
I don't like making films, Judi Dench announced disarmingly, explaining in one simple phrase why so admired a British stage and television actress should be largely unknown outside her country. "I never have liked making films. I like doing a play because you go on and on and it gets better. I don't like doing one or four takes, because I'm not sure of myself."
Well, if that is her conclusion after 40 years on stage and a handful of small movie parts, Mrs. Brown, John Madden's new film, is evidently the exception.
In the movie, which opened in Israel this week, Dench plays the widowed British monarch Victoria. She says she enjoyed every minute of making the movie, even the dreadful weather that accompanied the 30 days of filming in England and Scotland last fall.
The reason, it turns out, is quite simple.
"He made me laugh," she said of Billy Connolly, the popular Scottish comedian who plays

Brown, "and we continued laughing until the very end of the shoot. It was wonderful. One day he and I were in a boat and the water was seeping in. We sat there in the loch for four hours until the water was up to our waists. But it was OK, Billy kept us all laughing."
The film Mrs. Brown suggests that Brown had something of the same effect on Victoria, who in 1861 had slumped into depression and reclusion after the death of her husband, Prince Albert. Three years later, with the public revive over the disappearance of the monarch, the royal household summoned Brown, Albert's loyal hunting attendant, in the hope that the earthy Scot could persuade the queen to go riding and resume contact with the world.
Brown did that and more. Ignoring court protocol, he spoke to Victoria bluntly, even addressing her as "woman." This at first provoked her indignation, but it slowly won her over, to the point

that she considered him her best friend and he was running the court.
Soon scandal sheets were describing them as lovers (they were roughly the same age, in their late 40s) and mocking Victoria as Mrs. Brown. Finally, at the behest of prime minister Benjamin Disraeli (played by Antony Sher), Brown persuaded the queen to return to public life. After that, his influence waned, but he remained at court until his death in 1883.
"It's all true," Dench said of the screenplay. "For example, the valentine she sent him: 'My dear John, affectionately yours, VR.' And there's a lot more that isn't in the film."
"When he died, a lock of her hair was placed in his hand. She had flowers put on his pillow every single day from his death to her death in 1901. And when she died, she asked that his photograph be put in her palm. The hor-

rified doctors said, 'For heaven's sake, put some flowers over that.'"
So, to rephrase the question that intrigued Victorian England, exactly how close were they?
"She believed that Albert's spirit had entered Brown," Dench explained in an interview at the Royal National Theater in London, where she was rehearsing David Hare's new play, *Amy's View*, in which she plays an aging actress struggling to keep her name in lights.
"When he came down south, he was this old friend of her husband's whom she knew very well and who suddenly treated her as a woman. You have to remember, he was a Highlander," she added. "They're powerful, attractive people. So it was a passionate relationship. But I think you can have a really passionate relationship that does not have to be sexual. And I don't believe this was."
On this point, the movie is ambiguous. There is ample flirt-

ation between queen and commoner, and it's evident that at least in the early years of their relationship Brown held sway over Victoria.
But Dench could be right. Amid the bowing and scraping of the court, Victoria may have felt it sufficed to be fond of someone whose only interest was to protect and entertain her. To the world, she remained haughty, intimidating and "not amused"; with Brown, she let down her guard.
In several ways, the choice of Dench, 62, to play the monarch was a natural one. First, she looks the part. Like Victoria, the actress measures just 155 cm., while her husky voice and vowel-perfect Queen's English add to her regal aura.
She also had her own experience to tap. She has played many of Shakespeare's queens onstage, and having been named a dame (the equivalent of knighthood for women) by Queen Elizabeth II, she has even been entertained at Buckingham Palace, getting a peep inside today's royal court. (AP)

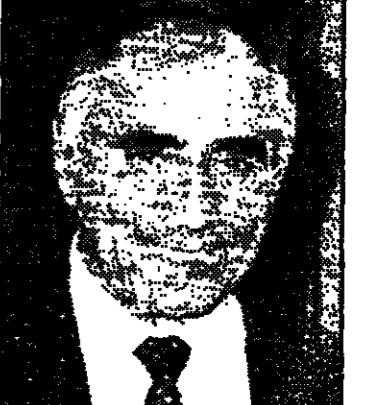
Adina Hoffman's review of Mrs. Brown will appear on Monday.

Music on my mind

Former Prisoner of Zion Yosef Begun talks about his favorite music

Born in Moscow, Yosef Begun was almost 40 years old when he applied to the Soviet government for permission to emigrate to Israel. He was dismissed from his position as an electronics and radio engineer in the military industry. He became an activist in the Soviet Jewry movement and spent a total of 10 years in Soviet prisons and Siberian exile. Finally, in January 1988, Begun arrived in Israel.
He founded a nonprofit organization in Israel and the US, called Anu Ameinu, which produces material on Judaism for Russian-speaking Jews. He is currently writing a book on his experiences in the Soviet Union, and he authors the Wednesday "Russian Press Review" column of *The Jerusalem Post*.
Given Begun's experiences, it's perhaps not surprising that he associates certain types of music with specific periods of his life.

from the Bible like "Yisrael B'rach B'hashem" (Israel, trust in God). But I also enjoyed nonreligious singers like Chava Alberstein and Geula Gil. It was all a mirror for our souls. We weren't allowed to listen to the music, but we determined anyway because we were determined to win in our fight for aliyah."



1. French chansoniers
"When I was growing up, we were cut off from the modern world and were allowed to listen to Russian music only. While I loved the great Russian romances and classical performers such as Shalyatan, the famous opera singer, my real love were the chansoniers, the French ballad singers such as Yves Montand and Charles Aznavour. I was so moved by the deep expressions of feeling in this kind of music. I still love it today."

2. Music of the streets
"After the Stalin regime ended, society was a little more open. We listened - still mainly underground - to popular music, in protest against the system. I liked musicians like Vladimir Vissotsky and Alexander Galych, who played to small audiences in clubs and were very popular with the intelligentsia. They weren't real dissidents, but they didn't think much of the regime. For people like me, of silent resistance, their songs - which communicated their longing for free speech, free movement, freedom of the press - struck a responsive chord."

3. Stirrings of the Jewish soul
"I was a refusenik, but thanks to our supporters here and in the West, we managed to obtain Israeli music illegally. I loved Shlomo Carlebach, with his songs taken

4. New land, new beginnings
"After I came to Israel, I became more and more familiar with Israeli music. I loved Rita, Arik Einstein and especially Shlomo Arzi. I hope that Russian immigrants will get to know Israeli music because it provides a strong sense of cultural belonging. My wife and I attended several Shlomo Arzi concerts and we have most of his albums. His melodies and his lyrics are so romantic, so personal. In his song "Yare'ah" ("Moon"), he says, "Yesterday was good and tomorrow will be good as well." It's a wonderful expression of optimism."

5. Nostalgia
"A few months ago, Yosef Kabzon played to a full house at Binyanei Ha'uma in Jerusalem. He was very popular in the Sixties, often referred to as the Russian Frank Sinatra. He sings in Hebrew and Russian. I still enjoy his music. And I adore Alla Pugachova, one of the most famous women Russian singers from that period. She performs in Israel, and Russians just love her. I don't know any of the new Russian music, but when I listen to Kabzon and Pugachova, I am reminded of all the greats of the Fifties and Sixties, like Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong."
- Amy Klein

Hot tips

By KAREN SULKIS
Tel Aviv Area
The imposing statesman was just here, but that can't stop come-

dian Ori Hochman from *Missing Kissinger* already. The provocatively named one-man show is directed by Jack Messinger. Tonight at 9 at ZOA House. Call 695-9341.
So many Banais, so little time. Last week it was Eyyatar almost upstaging Yossi Sarid and Ehud Barak at the Remembering Rabin rally. Now it's Ehud Banai's turn. He performs Saturday night at 9 at the Noga Theater in Old Jaffa.
Shake Tak presents dance works backed by live music. Tonight at 7 at the Suzanne Dellal Center. Part of the Raising the Curtain dance festival.

Edna Goren and Danny Gottfried play jazz tonight at 10 at Apropos, 1 Avner Zahala. Call 648-7098.
Raspberry Juice is a musical based on a story by Chaya Shenav. It plays today at 5 p.m. at the Hechal Cinema in Petah Tikva.
Jerusalem
Play for Peace, a celebration of coexistence, features musical ensembles, photo exhibits and theatrical pieces related to the timely topic of peace. Tonight at 6:30 at Gerard Behar/Leo Model Hall, 11 Bezalel. Call (053) 537-014.
The Hadassah community center

presents a reception and mixer tonight to celebrate the opening of a show by local artists. Immigrants, Israelis and anyone aged between 19 and 35 are invited to partake of wine, cheese and a bit of conversation. Beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Dor V'Dorshav 7A in the German Colony. Call 561-9233.
"Lama llamas?" you might ask. Well, why not? Moshav Ramat Raziel's llamas are so friendly, your kids will have the creatures eating out of their hands...and going for long walks and maybe even posing for arts and crafts projects. Bring the children over tomorrow from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 534-1721.
Smooth-headed, smooth-singing Ramit Kleinstein performs tonight at 9 at the Jerusalem Theater.
And Points Beyond
Kol D'mama presents How To Remember, a work by choreographer Moshe Efrati. Tonight at 8:30 at Beit She'an, Kiryaton.
Direct from the United States, the Queen of All Saints Basilica Choral Ensemble presents a free program of sacred music and American spirituals, based on both Biblical testaments. Tonight at 8:30 in Ness Amim.

Tomb of Rachel: A shrine becomes a fortress

Weekender Travel

Day Tripper By Haim Shapiro

When thousands of pilgrims visited the tomb of Rachel to mark the anniversary of the death of the matriarch this week, they did not find the traditional domed building, which has become a commemorative shrine on a host of Jewish ritual objects, but a newly constructed, long, fortress-like structure.

For many pious pilgrims, aesthetics are of secondary importance; what is important is the holiness of the site itself. For many others, however, much of the mystique of the building is bound up in its traditional structure.

The tomb, which is located on the northern outskirts of Bethlehem, is first mentioned in Genesis, but the most beautiful biblical reference is from Jeremiah, who visualizes mother Rachel weeping for her children as they are being taken into exile. In a passage which has become a watchword for the Jewish return to Zion, God comforts Rachel and tells her that her children will return.

According to the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, what we think of as the traditional domed structure is relatively new. Travelers from the 11th through the 18th century described an open gravesite consisting of 11 stones, laid by the 11 sons of Jacob, covered by one large stone, laid down by Jacob himself.

In the 18th century, the tomb was covered by a dome supported by four pillars and at the end of the same century, the structure was enclosed. The final renovation came in 1841 from funds supplied by Moses Montefiore.

The visitor would find a small domed building divided inside into a series of rooms. At the end was the giant cenotaph marking the gravesite, covered with a collection of embroidered cloths.

Both the observant and non-observant would come and light candles and pray, often for the sick. It was customary to measure the tomb with a red thread and beggars would often cut these threads into smaller lengths and sell them to visitors, who would tie them around their wrist as a talisman.

Despite the fact that it is not ancient, the domed structure has become ingrained in Jewish consciousness. It appears in numerous photographs and prints, and it has been pictured on everything from kippot to kiddush cups. For me, at least, the small domed building had a certain modest grandeur.

That is hardly something that you could say about the present structure. The outside wall, despite a relief tracery of arches, looks to me like the exterior of a parking garage.

I am fully aware that the building, as it stood before the recent

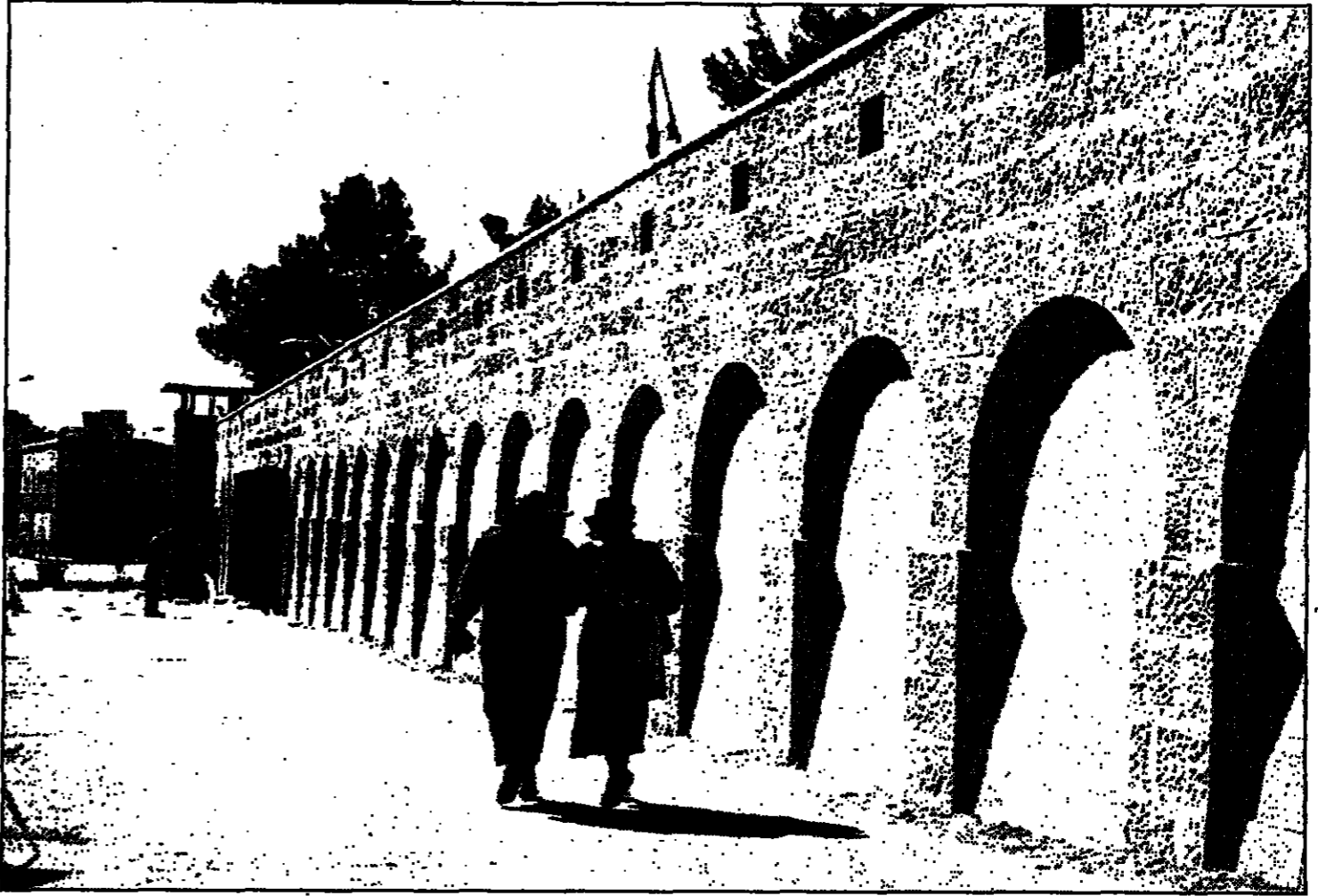
construction, had certain problems. On days of mass pilgrimage, it could not possibly accommodate all the visitors, some of whom never even got inside. And, because the shrine marks the boundary between Israeli and Palestinian jurisdiction, it also presents something of a security problem, both for the guards and the visitors.

Now, the watchtowers rising above Rachel's Tomb make it very clear that this is as much a fortress as a shrine.

To reach the tomb, the visitor follows a long corridor, apparently designed to accommodate the crowds, which is lit with recessed lighting. The old Ottoman gateposts, with the sultan's seal, look rather out of place here in these modern surroundings.

Finally, you reach the shell of the old building, which has been stripped down, with its dome hidden from view. The cenotaph remains inside, but it is dwarfed by the new structure. One of the few picturesque features that has been left is a well with an inscription attesting to the fact that it was built from funds provided by the Jewish community of Bombay.

No doubt, with time, the building will age. If nothing else does it, the smoke from the thousands of candles lit there should do the job.



The small, domed building that used to house the tomb of Rachel had a modest grandeur; the present structure (above) looks like the exterior of a parking garage. (Bryan McBumey)

Close Encounters By Allan Rabinowitz

Twin peaks in the lower Galilee

For the stunning view alone, it is worth pulling off the main road west of Tiberias to climb the steep but short path (five minutes) up the Horns of Hittim, the trapezoidal plateau named for two sharp rises near the northern and southern edges. Green and open from early winter onward, the slopes are carpeted with poppies, hyacinth, lupines and other flowers.

From the top we see the Valley of the Doves meandering toward the north, the cliffs of the Arbel jutting forth below us, the hills of Upper Galilee, the Kinneret shining in its basin to the east and the Golan Heights beyond. Here, in 1187, an embattled Crusader army also stood.

They had little time, however, to appreciate the view, engaged as they were in a monumental battle which decimated their troops and snapped the spine of Christian sovereignty in the Middle East.

Amazingly, nothing has really changed on this slightly sunken plateau since then. No monument, no building, no manicured park mars the the rawness of this ancient battlefield.

Picture the massive army, some 22,000 strong, marching toward us from its base in Tzippori, along a circuitous route of some 40 km. on a dry day. The infantry slogs along in chain mail and leather jerkins, carrying heavy double-bladed swords. The knights, wearing iron mail and helmets fashioned like round, flat-topped steel boxes, ride on slow, heavy steeds ahead and behind the foot soldiers.

They had set out early this morning with high spirits, determined to smash a huge Moslem "infidel" army. They were united in a way that had eluded them for several years, since the much-loved and respected King Baldwin IV, ruler of the Christian Kingdom of Jerusalem, succumbed to leprosy at age 24, leaving a power vacuum behind him.

Loyalties were split between Raymond of Tripoli, an experienced soldier acting as regent, and Baldwin's brother-in-law, Guy of Lusignan, a court dandy with little military experience.

Saladin, the astute, experienced Moslem leader of the Ayyubid empire, was seeking to exploit Christian divisiveness and smash the hated Kingdom of Jerusalem, which had controlled the Land of Israel since 1099. Now he had crossed the Jordan

River with a huge army menacing Crusader Tiberias. In response to the threat, King Guy's rule, is acknowledged by all, even Raymond of Tripoli. Raymond has counseled caution and prudence in the face of a shrewd opponent, even though his own family is trapped in Tiberias, which Saladin has set ablaze.

King Guy, however, with no strategy, impulsively accedes to the demands of several barons for an immediate attack. So with no preparation and no water carts, he launches his army eastward.

As the cumbersome army reaches today's Golan Junction, harassment against its flanks by lightly armed Moslem horsemen intensifies. As the two armies at last face off along the plateau, the

Crusaders, hoping to reach Tiberias, charge the mobile enemy ranks. But the Moslem army melts to the sides, and the Christian army pours into the shallow pan between the Horns of Hittim where you now stand.

Water and only water matters. Temples pound, heads throb, limbs feel drained of strength as the Crusaders spend a hot, arrow-riddled night between these horns. In the morning, stumbling among the basalt pits and boulders concealed by thistles and matted dry grass, knights repeatedly

attempting to hack through the ring. But now the Moslems ignite the brush, and the easterly wind fans the flames toward the Christian army. Some are roasted in their armor, others choked by the blinding smoke. The knights hurt ever weaker charges across the pock-marked terrain. Groups of infantry mutiny. Desperate knots of men, eyeing the shimmering Kinneret as we do today, try to break through to reach it and are slaughtered.

After another waterless night in this scorched pan, some knights sneak over to the enemy and beg for death. Raymond of Tripoli, with the king's blessing, breaks through the encirclement with a contingent of knights and escapes to Tripoli, to fight another day. Without water, food, strength or hope, the Christians fight in a steadily shrinking ring until the king's tent and standard have collapsed. The Moslem fighters move in and find survivors too exhausted to fight or even surrender. It is all over.

Today, walking amid the boulders and dry grass, from rim to



Today, walking amid the boulders and dry grass, from rim to rim, you can feel how the Crusaders were trapped and immolated here. You can imagine the great, defeated army.

rim, you can feel how the Crusaders were trapped and immolated here. You can imagine the great, defeated army. As a Moslem chronicler described it (in a passage which should be memorized by every modern political leader) as he accompanied Saladin on a victory tour of the battlefield: "...naked, torn shreds of flesh, stumps of flesh, crushed skulls, cloven necks, loins smashed, sliced heads, feet cut off, noses cut off, extremities hacked away, empty eyes, open bellies, bodies cut in two, shriveled mouths, gaping foreheads out of which eyes trickled..."

The surviving infantry were force-marched to the Damascus slave markets; 200 knights were beheaded on the spot and the rest slaughtered in Damascus. Saladin personally stabbed one despised baron.

Only King Guy and a few nobles were spared.

Un defended and vulnerable, a series of fortresses - Jaffa, Acre, Tzippori, Caesarea, Nazareth, Nablus, Beirut, and Ashkelon - fell or surrendered after this battle in the Horns of Hittim, and by late September, Jerusalem itself fell. For almost another hundred years, the husk of the Christian

kingdom clung to the Mediterranean coast, and the nobles of the Kingdom of Jerusalem held their court and retained their titles. But the kingdom was only a mirage, shimmering through the smoke that rose from the Horns of Hittim.

The Horns of Hittim can be climbed at any time, though the road can be muddy after rain. Down the western slope stands a site holy to the Druse, the traditional tomb of Jethro, father-in-law of Moses. It makes for an interesting visit and can be reached by unpaved road from Kfar Hittim.

Jerusalem 3000 Years

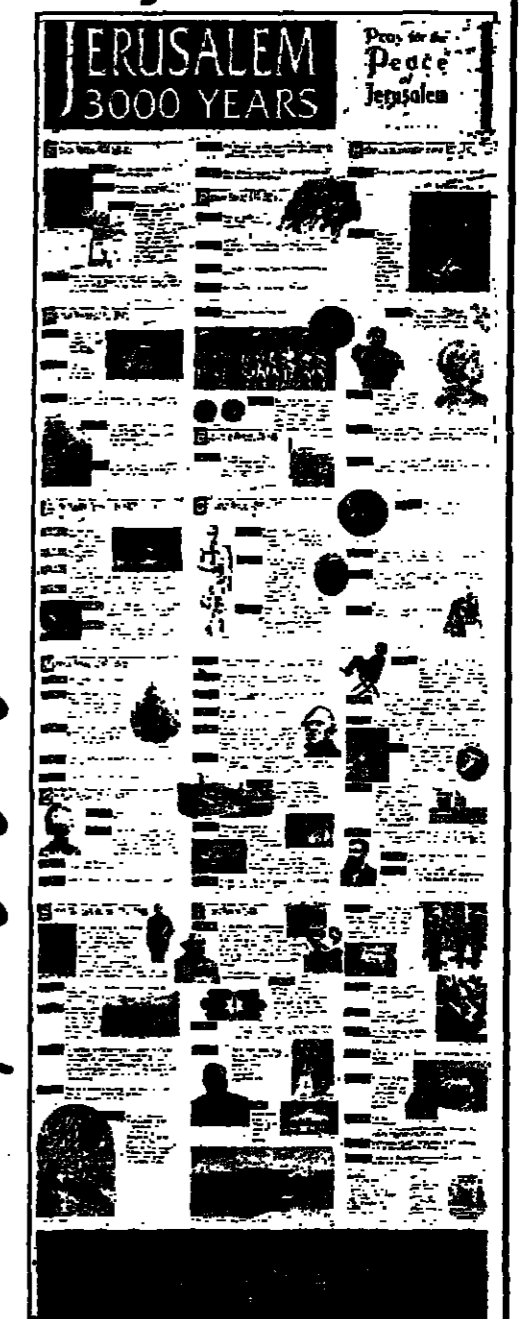
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Bridge

The system backfires

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer
North-South vulnerable

North
♠ 3
♥ Q 10 7 5
♦ Q J 10 8 6 4 3
♣ A

West East
♠ Q 8 ♠ 10 9 7 5 4
♥ 6 ♥ 9
♦ 7 5 2 ♦ A K 9
♣ K 10 9 8 6 4 2 ♣ Q 7 5 3

South
♠ A K J 6 2
♥ A K J 8 4 3 2
♦ -
♣ J

Closed Room:
West North East South
1 NT 2 NT 3 ♣ 1 ♣
4 C 4 ♣ 5 C 3 ♣
pass 6 ♣ pass 7 ♣
(all pass)

Open Room:
West North East South
3 C 3 ♣ 5 ♣ pass
pass 5 ♣ pass 5 ♣
pass 6 ♣ (all pass)

The next-to-last set of 16 deals of the Bermuda Bowl, played in Tunisia last week, was a crucial set. Although France had a 50-imp lead over the US, they were about to play against two of the strongest partnerships in the world, Bob Hamman and Bobby Wolff, and Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell. It is psychologically easier to play when you are 50 imps down in a match because the pressure is off, and you can play a loose style. On the other side, the French, up by 50, knew they were about to be attacked by particularly aggressive bidding and, with a little bit of bad luck, the cards "could turn."

The first deal, however, turned out to be a big swing for France. It was the French North-South that reached a grand slam, making, while the US pair in the Open Room stopped in a small slam. The fault was partially in the Americans' bidding system. In the Open Room, South (Hamman) opened a strong one club (the Americans use a Strong Club System, in which the one-club opening bid shows 17 or more points). The problem here was the vulnerability. Since East-West had the "green light" (the expression used for players who are not vulnerable versus vulnerable opponents), the artificial, strong one-club opening practically begged

West to interfere. Indeed, West (Michel Perron) jumped to three clubs, a preemptive move to take up bidding space from North-South. Notice that in the Closed Room, the West player (Meckstroth) overcalled one notrump instead of bidding three clubs. This was a system error as well. His one notrump showed a strong notrump or a long suit and a weak hand, but by bidding one notrump instead of revealing his club suit, he prevented his partner from leaping to five clubs; now his opponents had much more bidding space with which to maneuver.

Let's continue to examine the Closed Room auction. North's two-notrump bid was (by agreement) a strong raise in hearts, and East's three-heart call was a request for partner to show his long suit if he had one. South (Christian Mari) now had the luxury of bidding his spade suit and West showed his club suit. When East raised to five clubs, it was too late. South cuebid five diamonds and, upon hearing his partner jump to slam, South made the excellent (and brave) call of seven hearts. There must have been some doubt in South's mind that West would lead the ace of clubs, but he was confident enough to bid the grand slam based on the inference that his partner's leap to slam should include one ace. (His five-diamond cuebid had told his partner that the ace of diamonds was not an important card.)

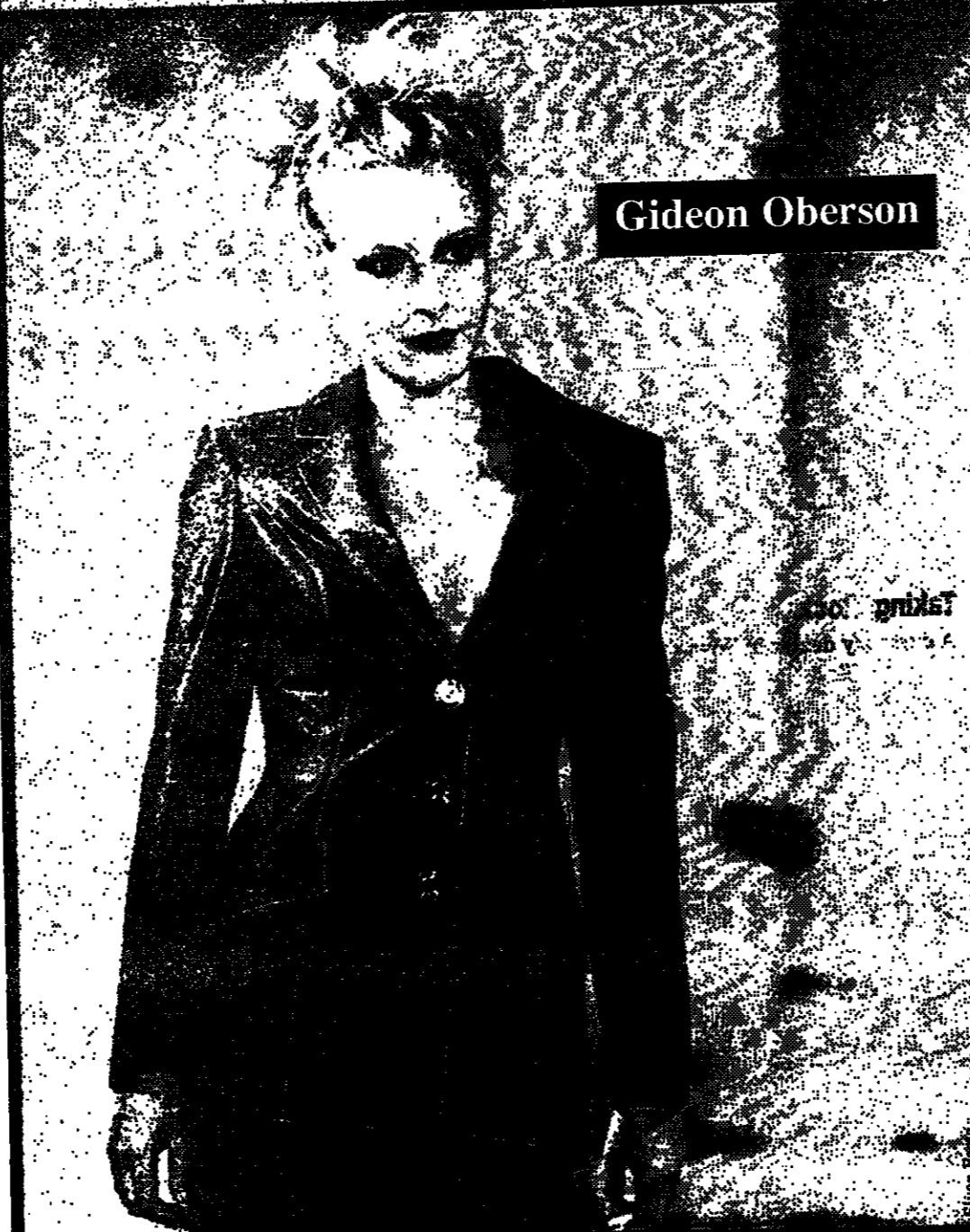
In the Open Room, it was much more difficult for South. After the strong-club opening and the three-club preempt, Wolff (North) bid three diamonds. East jumped to five clubs and South had yet to mention a suit! Notice here the difference in the two auctions, how in the Closed Room hearts were agreed by North-South on the first round of the auction, while in the Open Room the auction was at the five level before hearts were mentioned. At this point, Hamman (South) did the best he could by passing (a forcing pass); and when his partner bid five diamonds, he bid five hearts. North now raised to six hearts, and some critics believe he should have cuebid six clubs along the way. Meanwhile, Hamman, looking at that losing jack of clubs, just couldn't bring himself to bid seven hearts, and that meant another swing to France and, 31 deals later, another world title.

A special Israel Simultaneous will be played at most clubs throughout the country this Saturday night. Contact your local duplicate club for more information. Matthew Granovetter can be reached at gran@netvision.net.il

Weekend Leisure



Raziela



Gideon Oberson



Karen Oberson

Lifestyle VS. fashion

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

To the uninitiated, Ralph Lauren's Polo Sport and Jeans stores are just two more examples of upmarket retail outlets. To anyone who's never visited a Ralph Lauren store in the US or Europe, the prices will come as a shock - close to NIS 500 for a simple, 100 percent cotton turtleneck sweater. Worse still, the store's policy is: "If you can't pay for it, don't buy it." In other words, there's no installment plan to help the less affluent to change their image.

Ralph Lauren, two of his executives explained at the store's opening in Ramat Aviv last week, is not fashion but lifestyle.

Taking fashion writers on a tour of the elegant London-based premises, Desiree Bollier, director of Stores of the European Polo Retail Group, and Paris-based merchandise coordinator, Thierry Coupetant, injected new excitement into the classic basics by illustrating the development of a style concept based on Arctic challenges, golf, yoga, desert rallies, and so on.

The lines are all elegant but relaxed. The fabrics though luxurious and refined are all functional with a long shelf life. They won't wear out nearly as quickly as cheaper imitations. Each individual piece is strong. Together they make formidable combinations, exuding an aura of old traditions and new ideas, with an emphasis on detail and quiet sophistication. Though some items obviously cater to the young, there's a certain blurring of generation differences. After all, anyone can wear jeans and a sweatshirt.

Whenever we get dressed we try to coordinate the various items we choose to wear, but it takes a special knack to do it the way that Lauren has done. It's fascinating to trace the various inspirations and see them fall into place like a wearable jigsaw puzzle.

FASHION MORE than lifestyle characterizes the collections of Raziela Gershon and Gideon Oberson. Raziela's collection is so superb that her creative muse must have been working overtime.

Unless a collection is a real bomb, there are always two or three garments deserving of applause. The opposite is true in Raziela's case. At most there are

two or three garments unworthy of accolades. It's rare that one would want to take home a whole collection, but frankly, if I had the money, I would take the lot. But with limited finances at my disposal, I'll settle for the generously cut cloche coat for which Raziela has not yet set a price. "I can't think about a price," she said a few days after the show. "There are seven meters of fabric in these coats."

Most of her collection is made up of straight-legged, long-jacketed pants suits in mannish fabrics but with feminine chic. The suits have matching straight-falling paneled coats.

Her formal wear runs the gamut from all-revealing to all-concealing, with the best results achieved with corsetlike torsos.

The good news for the fashion conscious is that her sizes range from small to extra large with prices beginning at NIS 480 for blouses. However, they spiral to well over NIS 1,000 for dresses and coats.

Just as the most important feature in business is location, the most important feature in fashion, is detail. Here, Gideon Oberson has long proved himself to be a master. After all, if your forte is classic style, the novelty is provided primarily in the detail, such as the embroidered and beaded diamond-shaped applique-fastening on low-cut, often collarless jackets which look as if they've come straight out of a Hollywood movie.

On the runway, Oberson cleverly styled jackets over skirts and pants to give viewers a better sense of the versatility of the garments.

Black, the dominant color in the collection, was frequently teamed with brilliant jewel colors to the benefit of both. It was particularly effective as a beaded black tunic over a white strapless mini.

On a slightly less sophisticated level, Oberson's daughter Karen, who produces under her own KO label, brought out her plastic maxi coats with dramatic black stripes over red mini dresses. Considering that plastic was once considered cheap and a definite no-no in the true fashion stakes, it's decidedly come into its own - and looks stunning. Certainly any woman who wants her raincoat to be more than just a protective garment will be looking to the new tantalizing plastic creations as great options for making either an entry or an exit.

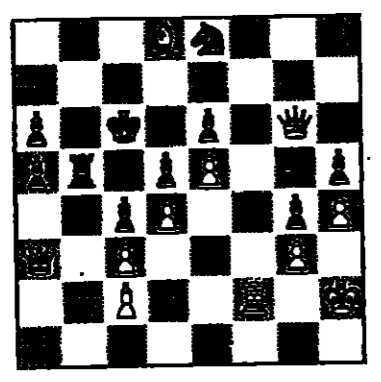
Chess

Chucky's back

By NIGEL SHORT

The Ukrainian grandmaster, Vassily Ivanchuk, is quite an original character. Regular readers of this column may recall how he feigned inebriation in order to win an important game against Veselin Topalov last year. With Chucky one is never exactly sure what is going to happen. In the first round of Dortmund, for instance, he reached the following position against Vistny Anand.

Black: (Ivanchuk) to play



White: Anand

The game ended at this point. Had I not seen Chucky hurriedly putting on his jacket and storming out of the building, and Anand staring round in total disbelief, I would have been sure that the game had ended in a draw. I approached Vistny.

"Did he resign?" I asked.

"Yes."

"Was he losing?"

"No."

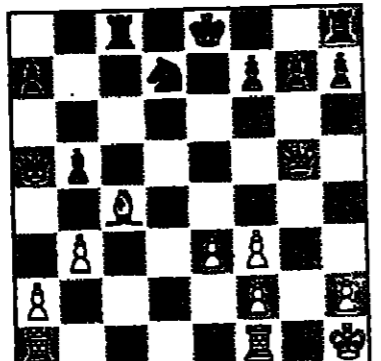
The following morning at breakfast, Anand was much more confident about his chances.

"Long term black is lost. With the combined threats against his king and the vulnerability of his h-pawn" (completely obvious, isn't

it?) "black cannot hold." I nodded in (sort of) comprehension. Two rounds later Ivanchuk produced another masterpiece, this time against Vladimir Kramnik.

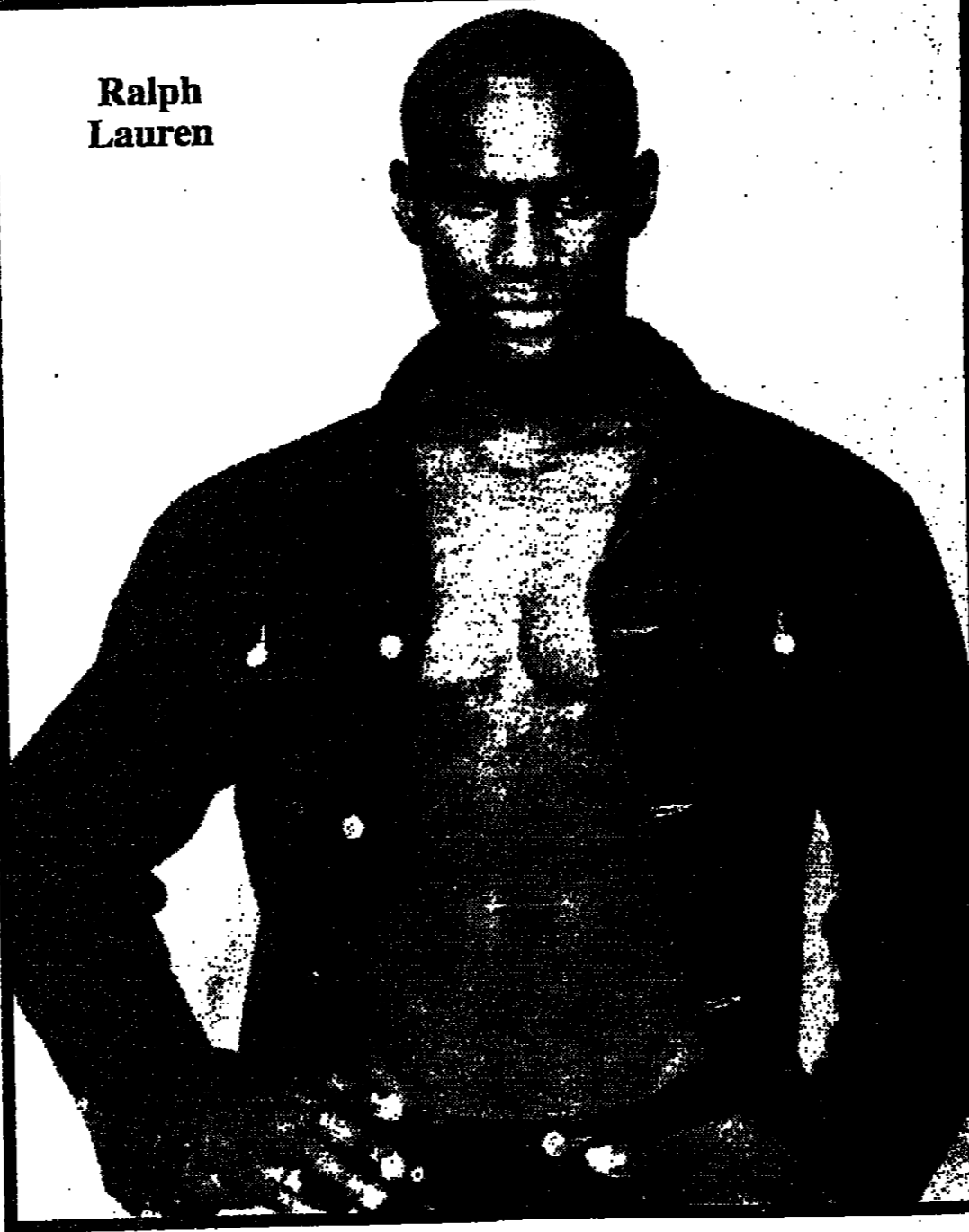
White: Kramnik
Black: Ivanchuk
Dortmund, 1997
1. Nf3 Nf6 2. e4 c6 3. Nc3 d5 4. d4 e6 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Qc2 b6 7. Bd3 Bb7 8. 0-0 Be7 9. b3 Re8 10. Bb2. At this moment, Ivanchuk had his one and only prolonged think of the game. 10...c5 11. exd5 exd4 12. dxe6 dxc3 13. exd7+ Nxe7 14. Bxc3 Bb4 15. Be4 Bxf3 16. gxf3 Bxc3 17. Qxc3 Qg5+ 18. Kh1 b5. Black appears to be winning a piece. Ivanchuk stood up confidently but moments later his opponent replied 19. Qa5!

Black: (Ivanchuk) to play



White: Kramnik

Shaking his head several times in astonishment (this riposte was extremely difficult to foresee on the tenth move) Chucky slumped back into his chair. By now many people were correctly predicting his next move. 19...Resigns. Incidentally Kramnik merely had to remember some analysis of Alexei Dreevi to score this victory. © Telegraph Group



Ralph Lauren

Thursday November 13, 1997

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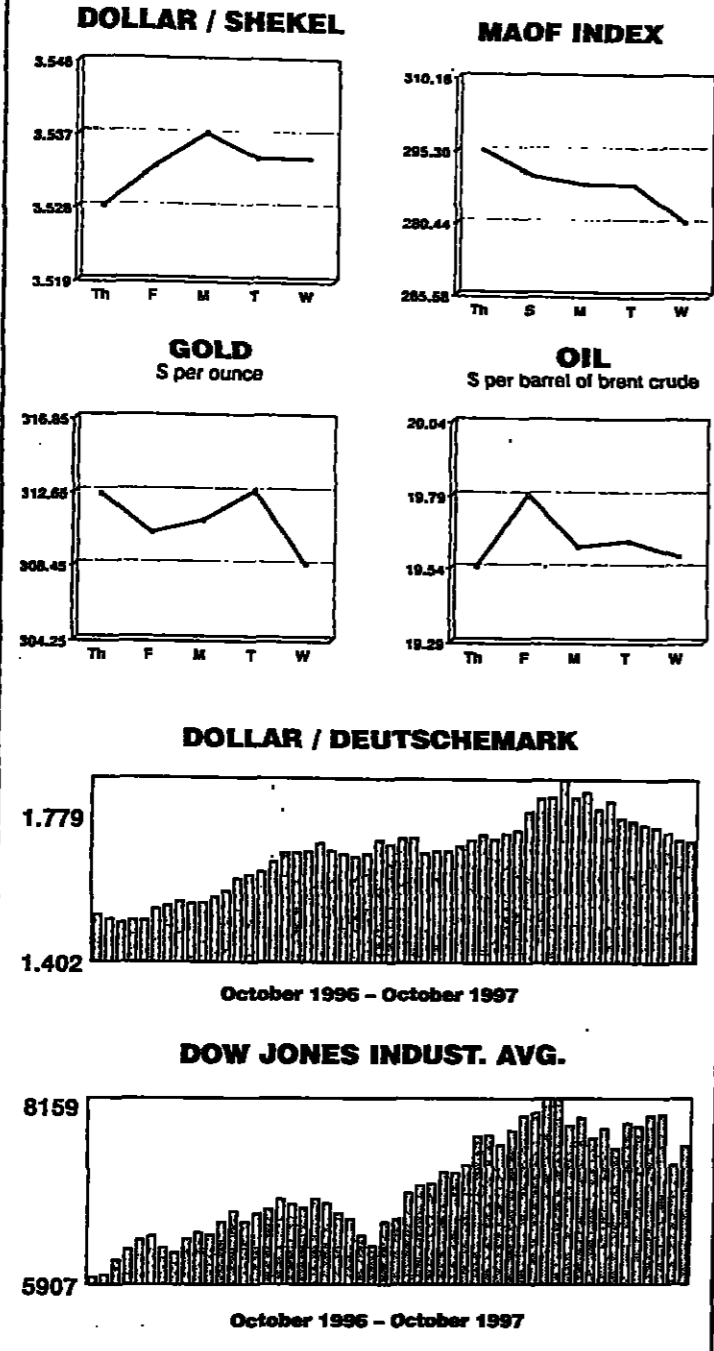
Thursday
November 13, 1997

BUSINESS & FINANCE

15

MARKETS

in brief



IMF presents positive report on Israeli economy

By DAVID HARRIS

Israel's economy is "generally positive," and the medium-term prospects are "favorable," but only as long as the "right policies are pursued." These are the key findings of the International Monetary Fund's initial annual report on Israel published yesterday.

After ten days of meetings with politicians, businesspeople and economists, the IMF team-of-four handed its report to Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel.

The five-page document includes the following observations and recommendations:

- There is a clear turnaround in policies for the better, compared to the fiscal excesses witnessed under the previous Labor government. Fiscal policy is well on its way to meeting the deficit target despite difficult economic circumstances. Inflation too has been brought within the target range; the current-account deficit has become more manageable; high-tech industries have

recorded double-digit export growth and the slowdown in growth appears to have come to a halt.

- Growth this year has been "disappointing" as has the rise in unemployment. While Israel has additional concerns including security issues and immigration, lessons should have been learned from foreign examples that when excess demand exists it is very difficult to put the economy back on a sustainable track without "some transitional pain."
- The authorities have taken steps this past year to liberalize capital-account transactions. This is important, as is the government's issuance of debt securities in foreign markets separate from the US loan guarantees.
- The main challenge is now returning growth to an annual 4-5 percent on a sustained basis, which appears to be Israel's potential. At the same time, progress must be made on the inflation front.
- As the labor force growth slows, economic growth will have to rely on faster labor productivity growth, which can only be achieved through greater investment and technical progress.
- The government needs to do more than merely achieve its fiscal aim of a budget deficit of 1.5% of the gross domestic product by 2001. There is "a strong case for greater fiscal adjustment, namely to achieve, at a minimum, approximate balance in terms of the government's accounting system by 2001."
- The IMF team supports the government's efforts to contain salary increases in the public sector.
- The health care system could become an even larger drain in the short-term if immediate steps are not taken to improve the incentive structure and increasing operational efficiency, flexibility and competition.
- It is time to put long-held inflationary psychology to rest.
- There should be no reduction in the central bank key lending rate until after the

Knesset's approval of the 1998 state budget and its initial implementation.

- The government should declare the following inflation targets: 5-8% in 1999, 4-7% in 2000, 3-5% in 2001 and 2-4% in 2002.
- The Central Bureau of Statistics should alter its housing index to reflect rental prices, not sale prices.
- The central bank must remain independent.
- The Brodet report recommendations on reforming the capital markets have not been implemented. While it may not be necessary to act on all the recommendations, something must be done now, including pension fund reform.
- It is now time for Israel to act as part of the advanced world and "play its leadership role in promoting better economic performance world over through its own unwavering efforts to stick to appropriate policies."

A final version of the report will be prepared in Washington in the coming months.



Taking stock
A currency dealer in Tokyo talks to a client after the US dollar jumped sharply above 125 yen during the day's trading. The increase was partly due to worries over the state of the Japanese economy. (Reuters)

ECI denies reports of merger with PairGain

By DAN GERSTENFELD

ECI Telecommunications president and CEO David Rubner said yesterday that the company is not negotiating with any company about a merger.

Rubner denied a report in yesterday's *Ha'aretz* that for the past three months the company has been talking with PairGain Technologies, a leading US communications company, about the possibility of a merger or acquisition that would be the biggest deal yet between an Israeli and foreign company.

"This is simply not true. We [have been in contact with] PairGain since 1992, but there were no talks in the last three months on a possible merger," Rubner said.

He added, however, that the company constantly is looking for acquisition targets.

"We have a mergers and acquisitions department which looks at

close to 100 companies a year. We believe in M&A and we have done it in the past. But, at present, there is nothing concrete," he said.

Rubner also denied previous press reports that ECI was considering a merger with Tadiran Telecommunications. In recent months, there have been rumors that Claridge Israel, which transferred its 10.4% holding in ECI to Koor Industries, is interested in a merger between ECI and Tadiran, which is a Koor subsidiary. Koor sources have stated in the past that they are interested in acquiring Clal Israel's 25.8% stake in ECI.

"Tadiran is our neighbor [in Petah Tikva] and we are cooperating in a few fields, but there are no talks over a possible merger," Rubner said. "In the future, we might decide to consider such a merger. In any case, the decision will not be taken by the Claridge Group, but by the company's board of directors based on the interests of ECI."

Israel mulls retaliation in orange juice dispute with EU

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Israel will consider retaliatory measures should the European Union persist with aggressive measures against Israeli exports, Zohar Perry, the head of the foreign relations department of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, said yesterday.

"If the situation snowballs, than why shouldn't we check their goods, too?" Perry said.

During a meeting yesterday, Foreign Minister David Levy and European Union President Jacques Poos agreed that Israel and the EU should set a meeting for as soon as

possible to resolve the country-of-origin dispute over orange juice that heated up two days ago.

On Tuesday, the EU issued a warning on the Internet to European importers saying that some Israeli products may not comply with free-trade stipulations. It was the latest step in a four-year battle over EU allegations that Israel was using oranges from elsewhere in Europe concentrate that it ships to Europe.

The EU contends that Israel's refusal to grant them access to exporters' documents casts doubt on the authenticity of country-of-

origin certificates Israel provides when selling goods in Europe.

Israeli officials expressed surprise over the country-of-origin dispute. Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky accused the EU of exploiting the issue to express dismay over the political situation.

An EU official called the claim "baloney."

"The discussions which have taken place with Israel over the last few months never reached a satisfactory conclusion," the official said.

Perry said that sorting out the country-of-origin issue for orange

juice would require sifting through the books of individual companies, several of which have been reorganized or gone out of business.

Perry blamed the EU for recent complications in the negotiations. He said that on November 3, the EU canceled a November 14 meeting in Brussels, asking to reschedule for November 5.

Exports to Europe total 32% of all Israeli sales abroad. Israel has a negative trade balance with the EU with exports totaling \$4b. in the first seven months of 1997 and imports amounting to \$8.6b.

European, US drug industries threaten to cut R&D

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

The European and American pharmaceutical industries yesterday threatened to cut their local investments if Israel revises the current Patent Law.

A draft of the revised law passed its first reading in the Knesset in October.

The law currently bars Israeli companies from conducting research on drugs whose patents have not yet expired, giving US and European companies, which are not subject to such a law, a head start in developing generic drugs.

European and US pharmaceutical agencies have appealed to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinfeld to review the proposed draft, saying that the Knesset is "under the pressure of Teva" Pharmaceutical Industries.

Teva, Israel's largest drug maker and a worldwide leader in the generic drug market, has been trying to change the patent law since it was passed in 1994. The company previously said it is considering moving part of its research and development operations overseas in order to bypass the Patent Law.

Chief Scientist Orna Berry and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky also have appealed to the Justice Ministry to revise the law.

During a recent visit to Israel, US Congressman Charles Schumer said the current Patent Law was the result of American pressure. He said the law hurts both Israeli drug manufacturers and American consumers, who benefit from the cheaper generic products.

The Knesset is to conduct second and third readings of the revision in the upcoming months.

Treasury OKs mutual funds investment abroad

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Doron Shorer, the Finance Ministry's supervisor of capital markets and insurance, said yesterday that mutual funds would be allowed to raise their holding in foreign currency and foreign stocks and options to 50 percent of

their total assets.

Until now each mutual fund management was permitted to manage only two funds that could invest overseas.

Industry sources said that most of the mutual funds managements would prefer to wait for a little while until the Treasury and the Bank of Israel remove further restrictions concerning foreign currency transactions. The sources estimated that the big banks and most of the leading brokerage firms would decide on the opening of at least one new fund specializing in overseas investments.

Meanwhile, Shorer also said that he has informed Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman that he wishes to quit his post and move to the private sector. Shorer plans to resign in February 1998.

Finance Ministry to set sale timetable for Leumi, Discount

By DAVID HARRIS

The government will sell its controlling interests in Bank Leumi and Israel Discount Bank to private investors before the end of 1999, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman decided yesterday at a meeting with senior ministry officials and executives from MI Holdings.

Controlling shares in Bank Leumi will be sold first followed immediately by the flotation of shares in Discount. The remaining government shares in these banks and those in Bank Hapoalim, United Mizrahi Bank and Union Bank of Israel will be floated on stock exchanges in Israel and abroad.

Various methods of privatization were considered during the meeting, but it was concluded that the above program would be the most cost-effective and competitive while being relatively secure.

"So far no one has expressed interest in Leumi," said Meir Yacobson, the director of MI Holdings, the company charged with selling the government's banking holdings. Asked whether the Keil-Fishman group, which bid for control of Bank Hapoalim, is a likely contender, Yacobson replied: "If they make an approach, we'll be very happy."

At the meeting, Accountant General Shai Talmon said that a detailed program and timetable would be completed in the next few days. These would include the process of sale of controlling shares, the size of the controlling shares, and the timetables for the various flotations. A discussion is also scheduled soon at MI Holdings.

The government currently holds the following stakes in the banks: Hapoalim, 12.3 percent, Leumi 63.5%, Discount 51.5%, Mizrahi 46% and Union 23%.

Elbit signs \$38 million contract with Daimler-Benz

By STEVE RODAN

Elbit Systems Ltd. has signed a \$38 million contract with Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG, Munich [DASA] for the supply of computer display terminals and avionics equipment to upgrade of the Greek Air Force's fleet of F-4s, defense sources said yesterday.

They said the contract would extend over the next three years.

Elbit would not say who the contract was with. The company president, Joseph Ackerman called the deal with DASA a break-

through for his Haifa-based company. "It paves the way for the establishment of cooperation with the chief industry in Germany," he said.

Defense sources identified DASA's client as the Greek Air Force, which is upgrading its F-4s and negotiating for the purchase of American or European aircraft. Daimler-Benz is the lead contractor for the upgrade.

Ackerman said the contract fits in other work by Elbit for Western European countries and other NATO members.

"We expect that the new project will comprise a basis for the expansion of cooperation with DASA and will contribute to the deepening of our presence in Western Europe," he said.

The contract's announcement came as the company reported a 40% increase in net profits for the third quarter of 1997 over the same period last year. Revenues for the company, traded on both the Tel Aviv and New York exchanges, were reported at \$91.1 million, a 17.2% increase over the same period last year.

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FINANCIAL MARKETS

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LAST CHANGE

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NYSE

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Table with columns: Ticker, Last, Change. Includes entries like Amgen, Amgen Bond.

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CRITICS' CHOICE

ENGLISH SONG

HELEN KAYE

It's the finals of the second annual Beersheba A.A.C.I. National English Song Competition with 10 finalists performing their own songs, terrific prizes, and surprise guests. Tonight at the Beersheba Conservatory, (07-6276019) at 8:30 p.m.



Singing ensemble A Sei Voci performs in Jaffa tonight and in Jerusalem on Saturday.

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

The Jerusalem English Speaking Theater (JEST) presents Nicholas Wright's Mrs. Klein starring Dawn Nadel in the title role, with Rebecca Gillis as her daughter Melina and Myriam Roth as Paula, a would-be patient. The real Melanie Klein was a noted child psychoanalyst, and director Bruce Oppenheimer is himself a psychotherapist. It's in Tel Aviv this weekend at Yod Lebanim on Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Pianist Victor Derevianko opens the new piano recital series of the Tel Aviv Museum Saturday (8:30), playing Schumann's Kreisleriana, Liszt's Mephisto Waltz and variations by Szymanowski. The authentic early music series opens tonight at the Noga Theater in Jaffa with France's A Sei Voci, singing gems from the Renaissance and the Baroque, including the Miserere by Allegri. Repeated Saturday at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem (8:30). The Ra'anana Symphonette premieres Yoni Rechter's The Western Edge, a new opus for sax and orchestra with soloist Eli Sasson. Yuval Zalouk also leads his orchestra in the Tragic Overture by Brahms, Sibelius's Finlandia and the Swan of Tuonela and the Dvorak cello concerto with Arto Noras as soloist. Saturday and November 17, 19, 20, 22 in Ra'anana (9). Yaron Prenski leads the Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba in works by Boccherini, Mozart and Haydn Saturday and Sunday in Beersheba and November 13 in Kiryat Gat.

JAZZ & GUITAR

HELEN KAYE

The New York Jazz series opens with virtuoso vocalist Miles Griffith and trumpeter Marlon Jordan. Series music director Walter Blanding is on sax and clarinet. Tonight at the Tel Aviv Museum at 9 p.m. The 14th International Guitar Festival gets underway with a concert by the Israeli Strings Ensemble from Shefaya, an orchestra of guitars, mandolins and mandolas. Tomorrow at noon. Then it's the turn of Flamenco Soy, guitarists, singers and dancers from Spain on Saturday at 7 and 9 p.m. All at the Enav Cultural Center in Tel Aviv (above Gan Ha'ir).

TV

CHANNEL 1 6:30 News flash 6:31 News in Arabic 6:45 Good Morning Israel

JORDAN TV 14:00 Holy Koran 14:10 New Kids on the Block 14:30 My Little Fairy Tale

ARABIC PROGRAMS 16:30 Meeting Point 16:40 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS 16:30 News flash 16:31 Cosby, I'm OK, You're Hilton

CHANNAL 2 6:15 Today's programs 6:30 Rainbow Children

AROUND THE WORLD 6:30 News 6:35 News flash

WINNING CARDS in yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily chance drawing

DRIVE CAREFULLY

PRIME TIME TV

Table showing TV schedule for Prime Time TV across 8 channels and various programs like News, Beverly Hills 90210, and Lethal Weapon.

Table showing TV schedule for Second Showing (S) across various channels and programs like Scent of Green Papaya.

Table showing TV schedule for Channel 8 across various channels and programs like Open University.

Table showing TV schedule for Channel 5 across various channels and programs like Bodies in Motion.

Table showing TV schedule for NBC Europe across various channels and programs like Europe A la Carte.

Table showing TV schedule for Family Channel across various channels and programs like Good Evening.

Table showing TV schedule for Eurosport across various channels and programs like Motor Sports.

Table showing TV schedule for Movies across various channels and programs like The Peacemaker.

Weather section with a map of Israel and a table of weather forecasts for various cities.

Winning Cards section showing results from a daily chance drawing in Mifal Hapayis.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 It's right to give some sort of a smile (7) 5 Struggle with large discrepancy—about 2p (7) 9 Produced from hot coals if the girl stirs them up (3) 10 A very low joint (5) 11 20 might grow fatter (7) 12 Eighth month had exciting start for circus clown (7) 13 Think about what a shoplifter does? (4,5) 16 The wine got left inside—very red (5) 17 Two notes to the Roman leader about the (5) 18 Measuring against the average in future (9) 21 Right to take a bit back from a ticket showing he's mad (7) 22 Hurried back at speed to tell the story (7)

Solutions for cryptic crossword with answers like 'Smile' (GIGGLE), 'Struggle' (WRESTLE), etc.

Quick Crossword section with a crossword puzzle grid and clues.

Another Quick Crossword section with a crossword puzzle grid and clues.

Movies section listing various films and their showtimes across different channels.

Vertical text on the left margin including 'The Jerusalem Post', 'stops 32...', 'Vings 2-0', and 'ER!'.

